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Paper No. 16

MAILED

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 6,196,291 :
Issue Date: March 6, 2001 :
Application No. 08/979,438 :
Filed: November 26, 1997 :
Attorney Docket No. **970552** :

NOTICE

This is a notice regarding your request filed December 30, 2010, for acceptance of a fee deficiency submission under 37 CFR 1.28.

The Office no longer investigates or rejects original or reissue applications under 37 CFR 1.56. **1098 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 502 (January 3, 1989)**. Therefore, nothing in this Notice is intended to imply that an investigation was done.

Your fee deficiency submission under 37 CFR 1.28 is hereby **NOT ACCEPTED**.

It appears that the petition was not properly signed by a person having authority to prosecute in the above-identified patent. Therefore, the request can not be accepted at this time.

Petitioner's attention is directed to 37 CFR 1.33(b), which states.

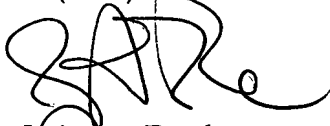
(b) Amendments and other papers. Amendments and other papers, except for written assertions pursuant to § 1.27(c)(2)(ii) of this part, filed in the application must be signed by:

- (1) A registered patent attorney or patent agent of record appointed in compliance with § 1.32(b);
- (2) A registered patent attorney or patent agent not of record who acts in a representative capacity under the provisions of § 1.34;
- (3) An assignee as provided for under § 3.71(b) of this chapter; or

(4) All of the applicants (§ 1.41(b)) for patent, unless there is an assignee of the entire interest and such assignee has taken action in the application in accordance with § 3.71 of this chapter.

Accordingly, the request cannot be accepted until it is signed by all inventors, an attorney /agent who is registered to practice before the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, or the assignee of the entire interest. If the request is signed by an assignee, the assignee must comply with the requirements of 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Inquiries related to this communication should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-4584.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JoAnne Burke', written over a vertical line.

JoAnne Burke
Petitions Examiner
Office of Petitions

cc: Ren Judkins
46 Newgate Rd.
Pittsburgh, PA 15202